THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) As per the information furnished by the Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi, out of a total electorate of 8,707,531 the number of persons issued with Electoral Photo Identity Cards, free from any defects is 5,800,683. The remaining 2,906,848 electors (33%) are yet to be issued Photo Identity Cards.

(b) The Election Commission of India will give wide publicity whenever the campaign for the issue of Photo Identity Cards is taken up. According to the Commission, the scheme of issue of Photo Identity Cards to electors is an ongoing programme due to continuous registration of new electors and hence no time limit can be fixed for completion of such a programme.

Cross voting in Rajya Sabha Elections

†3320. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the use of money and cross voting in elections to the Rajya Sabha;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take strict action to check cross voting; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI RAM JETHMALANI): (a) to (d) The Government is aware of allegations made in this regard as reported in the newspapers. Some corrective steps have also been suggested which are under examination by the Government.

Cases pending in Courts

3321. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of five, ten, fifteen and twenty year old cases pending in Supreme Court as well as High Courts, both Civil and Criminal separately; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for speedy disposal of cases?

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.